



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GROUP:	1615
EXAMINER:	Di Nola Baron, Liliana
INVENTOR:	Eric H. Kuhrts
SERIAL NO.:	09/495,556
FILED:	2/1/00
FOR:	SUSTAINED-RELEASE MICROENCAPSULATED DELIVERY SYSTEM
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	21208

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The present amendments and remarks are in response to the May 6, 2003 Final Office Action where the Examiner rejected all of the pending claims. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is filed herewith with the appropriate fee. Before reconsideration of the present Application, please enter this Amendment and consider the accompanying responsive remarks.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS FOR AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims in the manner indicated below. In the following amendments, an underline is used to indicate new text, and strikeouts are used to indicate deleted text. Claims 95, 99-100, and 106 have been cancelled. The amendments to claims 51-52, 58-60, 65, 73-75, 80-81, 87-89, 94, 101, 103, and 105 are supported by the specification and claims of the original application as filed. Specifically, the amendments to independent claims 51, 65, and 80 are supported by Examples 2 and 3 in the specification as originally filed. Also, claim 94 was amended to include a limitation that the pharmaceutical composition is a sustained-release pharmaceutical composition (as stated in the title), and that the animal or vegetable oil is present at from 3% to 20% by weight of the sustained-release pharmaceutical composition. Furthermore, claims 52, 58-60, 73-75, 81, 101, 103, and 105 were amended for clarification purposes. Accordingly, it is believed that no new matter is added by the following amendments to the claims.